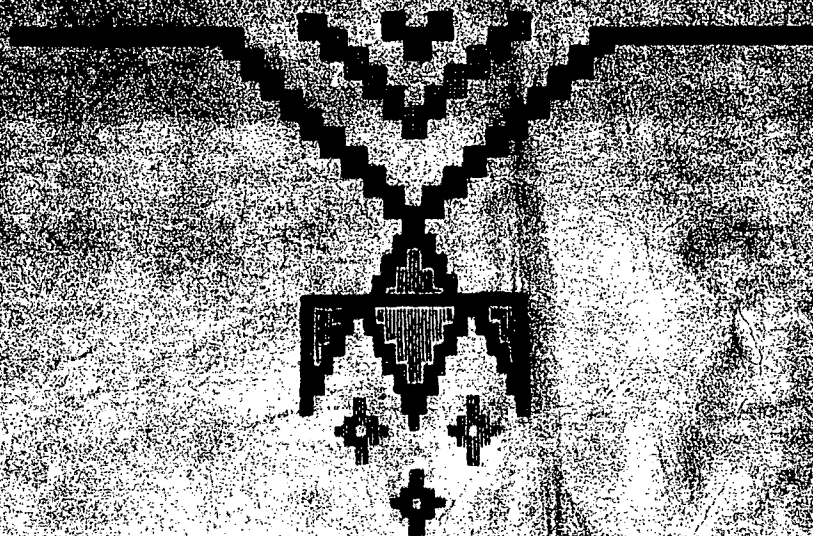
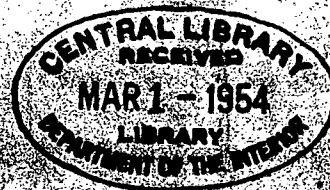


The AMERICAN INDIAN and
GOVERNMENT INDIAN ADMINISTRATION

By EDGAR B. MERITT, Assistant Indian Commissioner



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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
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MINISTRATION

on the various reservations. We also encourage the so as to bring them in com-ber of Indians each year r splendid exhibits of stock

the adoption of a five-year he purpose of having a de-he resources and utilize the tive being self-support for d that some form of organ- this undertaking, and this of Indians, with their own rt along farming and stock- Service are taking unusual iendly rivalry which exists th best efforts for increased ts, improvement in health, are in operation, or in pro- d plans are being made for-

es to chapters the Indian ning up-to-date methods of cooking, and improving the y are making a success of own tables with meat and lus supplies. Sewing clubs ruccion work in making of naking comforts, and other a good living through native ry, and weaving of blankets e welfare of their families. than the Indian mother. andard club work one of the am among the Indians. A i achieved. Indian children State, and interstate fairs ndian representatives at the er work includes attendance d short courses at the State the past year from 400 to bes, which have 2,500 mem- n 58 reservations. The pro- ltry, corn, potato, garden, improvement clubs. With r her own project.

GOVERNMENT INDIAN ADMINISTRATION 9

INDIAN FUNDS

The Indians have at this time approximately \$22,000,000 of tribal funds and \$34,000,000 of individual Indian funds in the Treasury and on deposit in various banks which are bonded for the safe-keeping of such funds. There are 750 of these banks and they pay interest averaging 4 per cent per annum. Thirty-one million five hundred thousand dollars of money belonging to individual Indians has also been invested in Government securities, which are held for safe-keeping by the Treasury Department, and interest thereon is paid to the Indians semi-annually. Tribal funds may be distributed to the individual members of the tribe under the act of May 25, 1918 (40 Stats., 591). The total Indian property of all kinds is valued at more than a billion and a half dollars.

INDIAN SCHOOLS

The Indian Bureau is conducting one of the most efficient school systems among the Indians, to be found anywhere in the United States or the civilized world. Dr. Samuel A. Eliot, a member of the Board of Indian Commissioners, an advisory board created by Congress and appointed by the President, and in no way connected with the Indian Bureau, in speaking of our Indian school system stated that "I wish I might send my children to an Indian school. There are no finer in the country, public or private. That may be too broad a statement as to instruction, but in educational theory and, in the larger schools, in equipment, none surpasses and few equal them."

The Continental Congress on July 12, 1775, appropriated \$500 for the education of Indian youth at Dartmouth College, New Hampshire. Similar appropriations were made from time to time, but the first general appropriation for Indian education was made by the act of March 3, 1819 (3 Stats., 516). Early appropriations for Indian education were used to assist individuals and societies who were disposed to give their time and resources to the education and civilization of the Indians. Appropriations were made annually by Congress until 1849 in the sum of \$10,000 for Indian educational purposes. As various Indian treaties were made appropriations for Indian education were provided, and in many of these treaties tribal funds were made available for the education of Indian children.

In 1878 the Indian department at Hampton Institute, Hampton, Virginia, was started, and the following year, 1879, the training school at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, was established—the first strictly Government Indian boarding school. From that time on reservation and nonreservation boarding schools have been established, as well as day schools. Latest reports indicate that there are 83,765 Indian children of school age, 12,191 of whom are not in school. There are in nonreservation boarding schools, 10,062 pupils; reservation boarding schools, 11,445 pupils; day schools, 4,909 pupils; mission boarding and day schools, 6,570 pupils, and in the public schools, 84,452 pupils, making a total of 67,438 Indian children in all schools. There are 6,168